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MASTERPIECE MARKETING GROUP, LLC
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9
10 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 BARRY ROSEN

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 MASTERPIECE MARKETING
GROUP, LLC, a Kansas limited
15 liability company, SEARS BRANDS,
LLC, SEARS HOLDINGS
16 MANAGEMENT CORPORATION,
and DOES 1 through 10,

17 Defendants.
18

CASE NO. 2:15-CV-06629-SJO-AS

**SECOND AMENDED ANSWER TO
FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR
COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT**

1 **COMES NOW**, the Defendant Masterpiece Marketing Group, LLC, by and
2 through its attorney, Michael A. Millett of the Law Office of Michael A. Millett,
3 P.A., and for its Answer to the Complaint for Copyright Infringement states and
4 alleges as follows:

5 **I. THE PARTIES**

- 6 1. Defendant Masterpiece Marketing Group, LLC, hereinafter “MMG” is without
7 sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the allegation(s) in
8 Paragraph One (1) of Plaintiff’s Amended Complaint and therefore denies the
9 same.
- 10 2. MMG admits that it is a Kansas Limited Liability Company that is active and in
11 good standing.
- 12 3. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information as to what Plaintiff
13 believes or is informed and therefore denies the allegations in Paragraph Three
14 (3) of Plaintiff’s Amended Complaint. MMG states that it sells original
15 photographs on ebay, on www.mmgarchives.com and on
16 www.borsariimages.com and has been selling such original photographs since
17 2011.
- 18 4. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information as to what Plaintiff
19 believes or is informed and therefore denies the allegations in Paragraph Four
20 (4) of Plaintiff’s Amended Complaint.
- 21

1 5. MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Five (5) of the Plaintiff's Amended
2 Complaint.

3 6. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
4 allegation(s) in Paragraph Six (6) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
5 therefore denies the same.

6 7. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
7 allegation(s) in Paragraph Seven (7) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
8 therefore denies the same.

9 8. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
10 allegation(s) in Paragraph Eight (8) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
11 therefore denies the same.

12 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

13 9. MMG incorporates by reference its answers to Paragraphs 1 through 8 above.
14 MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information regarding the remaining
15 allegations in Paragraph Nine (9) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
16 therefore denies the same.

17 10. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
18 allegation(s) in Paragraph Ten (10) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
19 therefore denies the same.

1 11.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Eleven (11) of Plaintiff's Amended
2 Complaint. Specifically, MMG denies that venue is proper in the United States
3 District Court for the Central District of California.

4 12.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Twelve (12) of Plaintiff's Amended
5 Complaint. Specifically, MMG denies that it is subject to the Personal
6 Jurisdiction of the Court.

7 13.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirteen (13) of Plaintiff's
8 Amended Complaint. Specifically, MMG denies that it is subject to the
9 Personal Jurisdiction of the Court.

10 14.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
11 allegation(s) in Paragraph Fourteen (14) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
12 therefore denies the same.

13 **III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

14 15.MMG incorporates by reference its answers to Paragraphs 1 through 14 above.

15 16.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
16 allegation(s) in Paragraph Sixteen (16) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
17 therefore denies the same.

18 17.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Seventeen (17) of Plaintiff's
19 Amended Complaint.
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1 18.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
2 allegation(s) in Paragraph Eighteen (18) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
3 therefore denies the same.

4 19.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
5 allegation(s) in Paragraph Nineteen (19) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
6 therefore denies the same.

7 20.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
8 allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty (20) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
9 therefore denies the same.

10 21.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty-One (21) of Plaintiff's
11 Amended Complaint.

12 22.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty-Two (22) of Plaintiff's
13 Amended Complaint.

14 23.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
15 allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty-Three (23) of Plaintiff's Amended
16 Complaint and therefore denies the same.

17 24.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
18 allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty-Four (24) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint
19 and therefore denies the same.

20 25.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty-Five (25) of Plaintiff's
21 Amended Complaint.

1 26.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty-Six (26) of Plaintiff's
2 Amended Complaint.

3 27.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty-Seven (27) of Plaintiff's
4 Amended Complaint.

5 28.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Twenty-Eight (28) of Plaintiff's
6 Amended Complaint.

7 **IV. FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

8 29.MMG incorporates by reference its answers to Paragraphs 1 through 28 above.

9 30.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
10 allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirty (30) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
11 therefore denies the same.

12 31.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
13 allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirty-One (31) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint
14 and therefore denies the same.

15 32.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirty-Two (32) of Plaintiff's
16 Amended Complaint.

17 33.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirty-Three (33) of Plaintiff's
18 Amended Complaint.

19 34.MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information as to what Plaintiff
20 believes or is informed and therefore denies the allegations in Paragraph Thirty-
21 Four (34) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint.

1 35.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirty-Five (35) of Plaintiff's
2 Amended Complaint.

3 36.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirty-Six (36) of Plaintiff's
4 Amended Complaint.

5 37.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirty-Seven (37) of Plaintiff's
6 Amended Complaint.

7 **V. VIOLATION OF DIGITAL MILLENUM COPYRIGHT ACT (17**

8 **U.S.C. §1202(A)**

9 38.MMG incorporates by reference its answers to Paragraphs 1 through 37 above.

10 39.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Thirty-Nine (39) of Plaintiff's
11 Amended Complaint.

12 40.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty (40) of Plaintiff's Amended
13 Complaint.

14 41.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty-One (41) of Plaintiff's
15 Amended Complaint.

16 42.MMG denies the allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty-Two (42) of Plaintiff's
17 Amended Complaint.

18 **VI. SECONDARY COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT**

19 43.MMG incorporates by reference its answers to Paragraphs 1 through 42 above.
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1 44. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
2 allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty-four (44) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint
3 and therefore denies the same.

4 45. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
5 allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty-five (45) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint
6 and therefore denies the same.

7 46. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
8 allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty-six (46) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
9 therefore denies the same.

10 47. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
11 allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty-seven (47) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint
12 and therefore denies the same.

13 48. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
14 allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty-eight (48) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint
15 and therefore denies the same.

16 49. MMG is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the
17 allegation(s) in Paragraph Forty-Nine (49) of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint
18 and therefore denies the same.

19 **WHEREFORE,** have fully answered, Defendant Masterpiece Marketing
20 Group, LLC, prays that Plaintiff takes naught by its First Amended Complaint for
21 Copyright Infringement and for such other and further relief as the Court deems

1 just and equitable.

2 **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

3 1. Plaintiff had granted a license to Peter Borsari to market and sell the
4 photographs in question.

5 2. The Court lacks personal jurisdiction over defendant.

6 3. MMG is protected by the Fair Use Doctrine as codified by Congress in Section
7 107 of the Copyright Act. To prevent unauthorized use, MMG posts a low
8 resolution digitally watermarked image of the photograph it intends to sell. The
9 image is to provide information to the potential purchaser and not for artistic
10 purposes. By posting the image online it allows a wide audience to view the
11 photo to determine if they want to purchase it as opposed to selling it only to
12 those people who could physically view it. Plaintiff's photos were part of a
13 collection of over 2 million photos taken by Peter Borsari and other
14 photographers that were provided to MMG to be sold. All photos in the
15 collection were owned by Peter Borsari and were lawfully in his collection.
16 MMG is not making copies or prints of the photos it sells rather it is just selling
17 the original photograph. No one would purchase the photo if they could not
18 view it.

19 4. Plaintiff has abandoned and/or waived his right to claim a copyright
20 violation. MMG is unsure of exactly what photos Plaintiff claims to have a
21 copyright in but believes they involve photos of Gena Nolin and Pamela

1 Anderson that were taken on the set of Baywatch. Baywatch aired from 1989 to
2 1999. Gena Nolin was on the show from 1995 to 1999. Plaintiff claims to have
3 accidentally left the photos with Mr. Borsari. Given the time frames the photos
4 would have been with Peter Borsari for approximately 10 years before his death
5 and then with his Trust for another 10 years after his death. In addition,
6 Plaintiff granted a license in the Pamela Anderson photos to Playboy
7 Entertainment Group, Inc., to reproduce the photos. The license was done by
8 Peter Borsari who claimed to own the photos in the license and sent Plaintiff a
9 check for 1/2 of the proceeds. Clearly Plaintiff should have known about Peter
10 Borsari's possession of these photos back in 2002. Plaintiff did not dispute the
11 fact that Peter Borsari claimed to own the photos. Plaintiff accepted the check
12 for his proceeds. Plaintiff did not ask for the photos back or inquire if he had
13 any other photos of his. Plaintiff claims to be Peter Borsari's friend. He knew
14 of his death and knew that his photos were going to be sold to a 3rd
15 party. Plaintiff did not ask the trust if they were in possession of any of his
16 photos.

17 5. Plaintiff has unclean hands in that he is a serial litigator. Plaintiff knew that
18 Peter Borsari had these photos and did not ask for them back. Plaintiff knew
19 that the trust was selling Peter Borsari's collection to a third party
20 purchaser. Plaintiff instead of getting his photos back from the Trust chose to
21 lie in wait until the new owner tried to sell the photos so he could file a
22

1 copyright claim. Plaintiff cannot intentionally create litigation to supplement
2 his income.

3 MMG claims any and all other affirmative defense that may be revealed
4 through the course of discovery.

5 Dated: May 10, 2016

/s/ Joseph S. Leventhal
Joseph S. Leventhal
DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP

/s/ Michael A. Millett
Michael A. Millett
(Admitted Pro Hac Vice)
LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL A.
MILLETT, P.A.

9 Attorneys for Defendant
MASTERPIECE MARKETING
10 GROUP, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that this document filed through the ECF system was filed electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) and paper copies will be sent to those indicated as non-registered participants on the date specified below.

Dated: May 10, 2016

/s/ Joseph S. Leventhal

Joseph S. Leventhal

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